

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-28 (Canceled).

29. (Currently Amended) An extended release dosage form, comprising

Venlafaxine Hydrochloride in an amount of 30-60% based on the total weight of said dosage form;

said Venlafaxine Hydrochloride being coated on a nonpareil inert core, said nonpareil inert core comprising 30-60% of the total dosage form;

the Venlafaxine Hydrochloride being optionally connected to a binder in a binder amount of 0.5-10% of the total dosage form;

a hydrophilic polymeric or GMS layer coating said Venlafaxine Hydrochloride and comprising 0.5-10% of the total dosage form; and

a control release layer coated over said hydrophilic polymeric or GMS layer, said control release layer comprising a hydrophobic polymer optionally mixed with a plasticizer, said hydrophobic polymer comprising 2-15% of the total dosage

form, and said optional plasticizer when present comprising 0.1-2% of the total dosage form;

said control release layer constituting means to control release of the Venlafaxine Hydrochloride over an approximately 24 hour period.

30. (Previously Presented) The unit dosage form of claim 29 comprising hydroxypropylmethylcellulose in at least one of said additional polymeric layer, said hydrophilic layer and said optional binder.

31. (New) An extended release composition comprising:

a nonpareil inert core;

a Venlafaxine Hydrochloride layer coating said inert core, said Venlafaxine Hydrochloride comprising 30-60% w/w of the composition; and

a hydrophobic polymer layer coating said Venlafaxine Hydrochloride layer,

said hydrophobic polymer layer comprising 2-15% w/w of the composition,

said hydrophobic polymer layer enabling controlled release of the Venlafaxine Hydrochloride over an extended time period.

32. (New) The composition according to claim 31 comprising GMS or a hydrophilic polymer layer coating said Venlafaxine Hydrochloride layer, said GMS or hydrophilic polymer layer providing at least one function of isolating, protecting and separating the Venlafaxine Hydrochloride layer from the hydrophobic polymer layer.

33. (New) The composition according to claim 32 wherein the hydrophilic polymer layer is selected from the group consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidone, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, microcrystalline cellulose, and carrageenan.

34. (New) The composition according to claim 32 wherein the hydrophilic polymer layer is 0.5-10% w/w of the composition.

35. (New) The composition according to claim 31 wherein the Venlafaxine Hydrochloride layer comprises a binder.

36. (New) The composition according to claim 35 wherein the binder is selected from the group consisting of

polyvinyl pyrrolidone, hydroxypropylcellulose and
hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

37. (New) The composition according to claim 35
wherein the binder is 0.5-10% w/w of the composition.

38. (New) The composition according to 31 wherein
the hydrophobic layer comprises a plasticizer.

39. (New) The composition according to claim 38
wherein the plasticizer is 0.1-2% w/w of the composition.

40. (New) The composition according to claim 38
wherein the plasticizer is selected from the group consisting
of castor oil, dibutyl sebacate, glyceryl monostearate,
diethyl phalate, glyceryl trihepthanoate, and triethyl
citrate.

41. (New) The composition according to claim 31
wherein the hydrophobic polymer layer comprises Eudragit or a
cellulose derivative.

42. (New) The composition according to claim 31, wherein the nonpareil inert core is an inert sugar core or a microcrystalline cellulose core.

43. (New) The composition according to claim 42, wherein the core is 30-60% w/w of said composition.

44. (New) In a method for administering venlafaxine hydrochloride to a patient in need thereof, comprising administering the venlafaxine hydrochloride as an extended release composition to the patient, the improvement wherein the extended release composition is in accordance with claim 31.

45 (New) A method for preparing an extended release composition in accordance with claim 31, comprising

providing the nonpareil inert core:

coating the nonpareil inert core with a layer of the venlafaxine hydrochloride; and

coating the venlafaxine hydrochloride layer with the hydrophobic polymer layer.